

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JUN 2 9 2001

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)



REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

D-8J

Honorable Henry Angelo Mayor of the City of Warren City Hall Warren, Ohio 44483

Dear Mayor Angelo:

FAX TRANSMITT	AL # of pages =
"Mark Durno	From Bendall Mone
USEPA.	Phone # 32-353-1147
140-250-1750	312-353-4788
NSN 7540-01-317-7363 5099-101	GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Region 5, Waste, Pesticides and Toxics Division became involved with the Mahoningside Power Plant, 650 Summit, Warren, Ohio 44483 in 1992 when the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) received a complaint that thousands of gallons of PCB containing oil were dumped on the site and in the nearby Mahoning River. OEPA's PCB inspectors, who were then operating under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. EPA, investigated the complaint. Although they were unable to confirm that large scale dumping had occurred, they did find some PCB contamination in the basement of the main building of the plant. OEPA and U.S. EPA provided oversight of the PCB remedial activities in the main building when demolition of the abandoned plant began in 1995. In the spring of 2000, additional PCB contamination was found underneath the main building's basement in concentrations as high as 147,000 ppm.

By July of 2000, the additional cleanup cost had exhausted the city's budget for remedial activities at this site. In response, the Waste, Pesticides and Toxics Division referred the site to our Agency's Office of Superfund, Emergency Response Branch. Superfund determined that the high concentrations of PCBs, in close proximity to the river, with an open conduit, posed a significant enough risk to warrant emergency action. On October 10, 2000, the Emergency Response Branch began remedial activities at the Mahoningside Power Plant.

In addition to the work done previously by the city's contractors, the Emergency Response Branch removed 1,770 tons of PCB contaminated material, including contaminated river sediment from the Mahoning River. All known conduits leading to the river were properly sealed and grouted. All PCB contamination above the regulatory limit of 50 ppm was removed.

The Waste, Pesticides and Toxics Division has reviewed the "After Action PCB Removal Report for the Mahoningside Power Plant Site" which describes in detail the PCB remedial activities at the site. We have determined that the cleanup was done in compliance with the PCB rules and that no further action is required under 40 C.F.R. Part 761. The U.S. EPA is aware that

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additional monitoring will be provided in accordance with guidance provided by the State of Ohio, and recommends that all applicable state and local regulations also be met at this site.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please contact Kendall Moore, of my staff, at (312) 353-1147 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Springer, Director

Wille H. Harris

Waste, Pesticides and Toxics Division